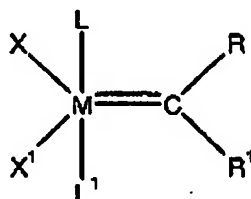


**Amendment to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A polymer composite consisting of at least one, optionally hydrogenated, nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) in the range of from 50-30 and a polydispersity index of less than 2.7, at least one filler and optionally at least one cross-linking agent,

wherein the optionally hydrogenated, nitrile rubber polymer is prepared by reacting a nitrile polymer in the presence of one or more compounds of the general formulas I, II, III or IV



Formula I

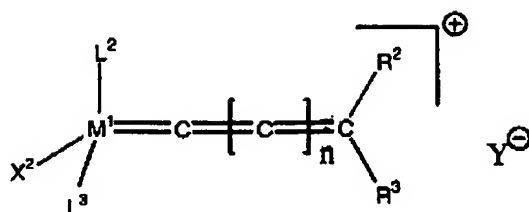
wherein:

M is Os or Ru,

R and R' are, independently, hydrogen or a hydrocarbon selected from the group consisting of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkyl, aryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> carboxylate, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkenyloxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkynyloxy, aryloxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkylsulfonyl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkylsulfinyl,

X and X' are independently any anionic ligand, and

L and L' are independently any neutral ligand, ~~such as phosphines, amines, thioethers or imidazolidinyldene (which are especially preferred)~~ or any neutral carbene, optionally, L and L' can be linked to one another to form a bidentate neutral ligand;



Formula II

wherein:

$M^1$  is Os or Ru;

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  are, independently, hydrogen or a hydrocarbon selected from the group consisting of  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$  alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$  alkynyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$  alkyl, aryl,  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$  carboxylate,  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$  alkoxy,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$  alkenyloxy,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$  alkynyloxy, aryloxy,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$  alkoxy carbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$  alkylthio,  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$  alkylsulfonyl and  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$  alkylsulfinyl,

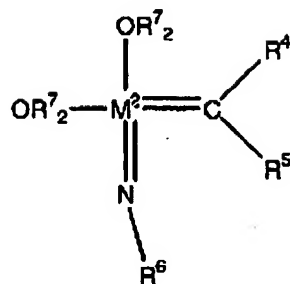
$X^2$  is ~~a anionic~~ an anionic ligand, and

$L^2$  is a neutral  $\pi$ -bonded ligand, independent of whether ~~they are~~ it is mono- or polycyclic,

$L^3$  is a ligand selected from the group consisting of phosphines, sulfonated phosphines, fluorinated phosphines, functionalized phosphines bearing up to three aminoalkyl-, ammoniumalkyl-, alkoxyalkyl-, alkoxy carbonylalkyl-, hydroxycarbonylalkyl-, hydroxyalkyl- or ketoalkyl- groups, phosphites, phosphinites, phosphonites, phosphinamines, arsines, stibenes, ethers, amines, amides, imines, sulfoxides, thioethers and pyridines,

Y- is a non-coordinating anion,

n is an integer in the range of from 0 to 5;

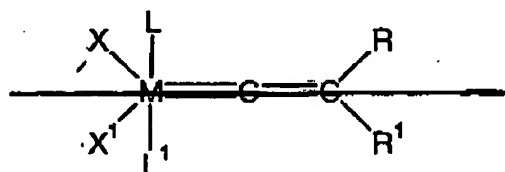


Formula III

wherein

$\text{M}^2$  is Mo or W,

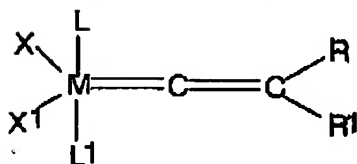
$\text{R}^4$  and  $\text{R}^5$  are, independently, hydrogen or a hydrocarbon selected from the group consisting of  $\text{C}_2$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  alkenyl,  $\text{C}_2$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  alkynyl,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  alkyl,



Formula VI

aryl,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  carboxylate,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  alkoxy,  $\text{C}_2$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  alkenyloxy,  $\text{C}_2$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  alkynyloxy, aryloxy,  $\text{C}_2$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  alkoxycarbonyl,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  alkylthio,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  alkylsulfonyl and  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  alkylsulfinyl,

$\text{R}^6$  and  $\text{R}^7$  are independently selected from any unsubstituted or halo-substituted alkyl, aryl, aralkyl groups or silicon-containing analogs thereof, wherein:



Formula IV

PO-7959

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wherein:

M is Os or Ru,

R and R<sup>1</sup> are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, and substituted or unsubstituted alkyl,

X and X<sup>1</sup> are independently any anionic ligand, and

L and L<sup>1</sup> are independently any neutral ligand, ~~such as phosphines, amines, thioethers or imidazolidinylidene (which are especially preferred)~~ or any neutral carbene, optionally, L and L<sup>1</sup> can be linked to one another to form a bidentate neutral ligand.

2. (Previously Presented) The polymer composite according to Claim 1 wherein the Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) is in the range of from 45-30.

3. (Previously Presented) The polymer composite according to Claim 1 wherein the Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) is in the range of from 40-30.

4. (Currently Amended) The polymer composite according to Claim 1, wherein the polymer composite comprises the optional cross-linking agent is selected from a peroxide or sulfur curing system.

5. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing the polymer composite according Claim 1 comprising mixing at least one, optionally hydrogenated, nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) in the range of from 50-30 and a polydispersity index of less than 2.7, at least one filler and optionally at least one cross-linking agent.

6. (Currently Amended) A process for the manufacture of a shaped article comprising the step of injection molding a polymer composite according to Claim 1 comprising at least one, optionally hydrogenated, nitrile rubber polymer having a

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Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) in the range of from 50-30 and a polydispersity index of less than 2.7, at least one filler and at least one cross-linking agent.

7. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 6, wherein the shaped article is a seal, a hose, a bearing pad, a stator, a well head seal, a valve plate, a cable sheathing, a wheel roller, a belt, in place gaskets or a pipe seal.